

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID ETRD RO UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET AID TO ROMANIA IN WAKE OF EARTHQUAKE

SUMMARY: APRIL 6 PRAVDA ARTICLE FINALLY PROVIDES SOME
CONCRETE INFORMATION ON SOVIET RELIEF EFFORTS FOR EARTHQUAKE-
STRICKEN ROMANIA. THE INFORMATION IS NOT SPECIFIC AS TO
AMOUNTS, BUT INDICATES SOVIETS ARE PROVIDING CONSTRUCTION
MATERIAL, INCLUDING A COMPLEX TO PRODUCE SUCH MATERIAL.
THE SOVIET UNION HAS ALSO ACCELERATED DELIVERIES LISTED IN
1977 TRADE PROTOCOL. THE ARTICLE SAYS NOTHING, HOWEVER,
CONCERNING RELIEF FOR THE ROMANIANS ON RECIPROCAL TRADE
DELIVERIES. END SUMMARY.

1. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS FROM READERS, APRIL 6 PRAVDA
PROVIDES SOME INFORMATION ON FORM WHICH SOVIET AID TO
ROMANIA IN REPAIRING DAMAGE CAUSED BY EARTHQUAKE IS TAKING.
ACCORDING TO THE ARTICLE SOVIET AID IS IN THE FORM OF BUILDING
MATERIAL AND TECHNOLOGY. THE SOVIETS ARE DELIVERING TO
ROMANIA UNSPECIFIED AMOUNTS OF SLATE, SOFT ROOFING AND WATER-
PROOFING MATERIAL, PIPES, SANITARY-TECHNICAL PRODUCTS, AND
WOOD-FIBER SLABS. THEY ARE ALSO TO DELIVER 500,000

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SQUARE METERS OF WINDOW GLASS. THE SOVIETS ARE ALSO
SUPPLYING HEAVY TRUCKS FROM THE MINSK AND KREMENCHUG
FACTORIES, AS WELL AS KHARKOVSK TRACTORS.

2. THE LARGEST SOVIET DELIVERY IS TO BE A COMPLEX CAPABLE OF
PRODUCING 70-80,000 SQUARE METERS OF RESIDENTIAL QUARTERS
PER YEAR. SOVIET SPECIALISTS ARE SAID TO BE IN BUCHAREST

TO DISCUSS PRODUCTION CHARACTERISTICS OF THE COMPLEX, THE DELIVERY OF WHICH IS TO BE COMPLETED BY AUTUMN. THEY ALSO ARE TO DISCUSS SOVIET AID IN MODERNIZING THE BUCHAREST CONSTRUCTION COMBINE, BUILT IN 1967 WITH SOVIET TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

3. PRAVDA ALSO REPORTS ACCELERATION OF SOVIET DELIVERIES ALREADY AGREED UPON UNDER THE 1977 SOVIET-ROMANIAN TRADE PROTOCOL. THUS, ABOUT 40 PERCENT OF ALL ROAD BUILDING TECHNOLOGY WHICH THE SOVIET UNION WAS TO DELIVER IN 1977 HAS ALREADY BEEN SHIPPED. AND BY THE END OF APRIL THE CHELYABINSK AND ORLOVSK FACTORIES ARE ALREADY TO HAVE COMPLETED THEIR 1977 DELIVERIES TO ROMANIA. THESE DELIVERIES INCLUDE SCRAPERS, GRADERS AND BULLDOZERS.

4. PRAVDA MENTIONS AS "AID" ADVICE OF SOVIET SCIENTISTS ON HOW TO MINIMIZE THE DAMAGE CAUSED BY EARTHQUAKES. THESE SCIENTISTS WILL WORK OUT PRECISE RECOMMENDATIONS ON CONSTRUCTION NORMS FOR THE EARTHQUAKE ZONES OF ROMANIA.

5. COMMENT: THE PRAVDA ARTICLE IS THE FIRST WE HAVE SEEN GIVING ANY DETAILS ON SOVIET AID TO ROMANIA. WITH NO INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON AID ONE MONTH AFTER THE QUAKE, MANY SOVIETS MUST HAVE BEEN WONDERING WHAT HELP THEIR GOVERNMENT WAS ACTUALLY PROVIDING TO A "FRATERNAL" COUNTRY IN NEED. THE ARTICLE IS OBVIOUSLY INTENDED TO GIVE THE IMPRESSION OF MAJOR SOVIET AID TO ROMANIA. HOWEVER, THE ONLY SPECIFICS PROVIDED ARE FOR WINDOW GLASS AND THE CONSTRUCTION-MATERIAL COMPLEX, WHICH WILL NOT BE IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PRODUCTION UNTIL NEXT AUTUMN AT THE EARLIEST.

6. ALTHOUGH A SPEED-UP OF SOVIET DELIVERIES FOR 1977, ESPECIALLY OF CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS, WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE HELPFUL, THE ARTICLE LEAVES UNANSWERED THE QUESTION WHETHER THE SOVIETS ARE PROVIDING ANY RELIEF TO THE ROMANIANS ON SCHEDULED DELIVERIES OF ROMANIAN GOODS TO THE USSR. THE QUARTERLY TRADE STATISTICS, WHEN THEY ARE EVENTUALLY PUBLISHED, SHOULD GIVE SOME INDICATION IN THIS REGARD.
TOON

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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